

Weathersfield School

Brian Martes, Principal 135 Schoolhouse Road P.O. Box 279 Ascutney, Vermont 05030 (802)674-5400 Fax (802)674-9963 wsesu.net brian.martes@wsesu.net

August 25, 2021

Dear Weathersfield Families,

The start of the new school year is approaching quickly, and we are so excited to welcome you back! I hope that your summer was full of time with family and friends, and that you were able to do some relaxing and recovering from the stress of the year.

I wanted to do a quick introduction of myself. I am Brian Martes, the new Lead Learner (Principal) of Weathersfield School. My family and I wanted a change in our pace of life, so we moved from California to Vermont and could not be happier. I have two children that will be attending Weathersfield school and my wife is a teacher at Windsor. We love being part of the Weathersfield community and look forward to meeting you over the course of the school year.

Our amazing maintenance team (Bryan Woodbury, Kelly O'Brien, Kathy Dana, and Theresa White) have been hard at work all summer getting the school ready for a new year, and our remarkable teachers have been in setting up classrooms and planning for the upcoming year. Not to mention that BJ Esty and Carrie Jewell have been hard at work in the office too. Although we will be following a majority of our Covid protocols again this year, we are all grateful to be in person with our students!

The new school year brings some staffing changes. Please welcome the following new staff members to our Weathersfield family this year:

New Staff: Zachary O'Brien, Middle Level ELA Crystal Surrell, Paraprofessional

Staff Changes: Lori Small 3rd Grade

We are excited to have such talented staff members join our team! We are also happy to announce that our related arts teachers and our interventionists who worked as classroom teachers during the pandemic last year will be returning to their pre-pandemic roles.

As we enter the new school year, our primary goals will focus on the three areas of our Recovery Plan and our Strategic Plan.



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Strategic Plan Goals:

WSESU Goal #1: Student Success

WSESU will improve student's learning experiences, because the personal, educational, vocational, and civic successes of our students are increasingly challenged in our rapidly changing world.

WSESU Goal #2: Culture and Student Wellness

WSESU will strengthen and broaden the connections between and among all staff and the core work of education in pursuit of greater staff engagement, well-being, innovation, inclusion and resolve.

WSESU will further integrate the whole student into their education, so that the students increasingly see relevance, purpose, and connections between their learning experiences and their individual and collective lives.

WSESU Goal #3: Information and Communication

WSESU will improve the quality and effectiveness of its two-way communication, so that stakeholder trust, understanding, and support will continue to advance the education of and opportunities for its students.

Other important information:

WSESU PowerSchool Parent Portal

*Important note** *We are NOT using Unified Classroom for the 2021-22 school year. Please do not visit classroom.powerschool.com anymore*

Step 1. Go to this web address to access the PowerSchool parent portal - <u>https://wssu.powerschool.com/public/</u> Step 2. Enter your username and password.

Step 3. (if needed) If you do not remember your username and password, send an email to **parentaccess@wsesu.net** and we will help you.

Picture Day is September 28th!

Free and Reduced Applications

We are going to a 100% paperless and online system to streamline and make the filling out the Free and Reduced lunch application process more efficient and safe. **Yes, every 18 and younger child will be able to receive a free breakfast and lunch for the 2021/22 school year,** but these applications are used for many other funding opportunities for school programming so it is very important that each family fills out this form. Please see the attached link to the Windsor Southeast SU site.

https://www.myschoolapps.com/Home/DistrictRedirect/WINDSOR_VT?langid=1



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Thank you for your time and support, Craig Locarno, Windsor Southeast SU.Director of Food Service <u>craig.locarno@wsesu.net</u> (802) 674-2144 *111

Please fill out the attached forms, return paper copies to the office and sign the attached Compact:

- 1. <u>Compact:</u> <u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8JzEH4cq7433IHilzVzusti4aeF0cNanDBUkeOtN5cd3Ngw/</u> <u>viewform?usp=pp_url</u>
- 2. Student Information Form: <u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P5pU-r948T9_KYpKM3FOtgQYzORApLc1Kn3La81ZPrM/edit?usp</u> =sharing
- 3. Student Health Information:<u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rktj87ZQcqP_nKbHEclqApIUkqxhidFbu8_e-I_HBss/edi</u> <u>t?usp=sharing</u>
- 4. WS Handbook, Signature page needs to be returned: <u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SAm3A0YeXILoIR_JHtoB5IZMsLdyZlU8C64OvQXO9bU/edit?usp</u> =sharing
- 5. Prescription Medication Form, if applicable: <u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1usqnHTCJMf1fSd_vph-3SY7sOv6n-iwS/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=11</u> <u>2320036948351830918&rtpof=true&sd=true</u>

Other Important Information:

- WS Bus Routes: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1b2i0NvpuI6miTqmiGY8cIDjafCNStRPhyMEVslz6AcY/edit?usp=sh aring
- WSESU Covid Response Plan: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vN0nCriLCyyThko8gv3J5xFBY06hYKQbyEnijNT43gI/edit?usp=sh aring

If you need a paper copy of the forms, do not hesitate to contact the office.

Thank you for helping prepare your child for the upcoming school year. Your commitment to being part of your child's education is so appreciated. I eagerly look forward to seeing you soon. Together, we will make this school year safe and successful!

I am attaching links to our 2021- 2022 Weathersfield Parent and Student Handbook Thank you for your attention to this. The handbook signature page will be sent home with the first day of school paperwork. Please be sure to send all paperwork back as soon as possible.

Enjoy the rest of the summer break!

Your Lead Learner,

Brian Martes